## SCRIPTURAL READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

[1 Cor 11:1-2]

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions just as I handed them on to you. The Word of the Lord.

## PRAYER OF RESPONSE

Lord, help us to be imitators of Blessed Michael Rua, as he sought to imitate St. John Bosco. May the intercession of both of these saints help us to model Christ in our everyday lives.

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Ant.: The Spirit of the Lord has consecrated me to proclaim a joyful message to the poor.

[Melody: "I Sing the Mighty Pow'r of God" (Mozart) or the Forest Green melody.

Now bless the God of Israel, Who comes in love and pow'r, Who raises from the royal house Deliv'rance in this hour. Through holy prophets God has sworn To free us from alarm, To save us from the heavy hand Of all who wish us harm. Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear, that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year. And you, my child, shall go before To preach, to prophesy, That all may know the tender Lord, The grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send
The Dayspring from on high,
Our rising Sun, the light of life
For those who sit and sigh.
God comes to guide our way to peace,
That death shall reign no more.
Sing praises to the Holy One!
O worship and adore!

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: At the beginning of this new day, let us raise our prayers and supplications to God our Father.

- Through the grace that comes from You, Father,
  You enable the ministers of Your Church to work
  with patience in charity.
   Grant courage and perseverance to those You
  have called to work for the Kingdom.
- 2. In Blessed Michael Rua You have given us a model of total availability to Your call.

  Grant that by imitating his example, we may love and serve Christ in the young with whom we come in contact.